



News From Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis 32nd Congressional District of California

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SOLIS PRESENTS ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD TO JUAN MARTINEZ

EL MONTE, CA-Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis (CA-32) and the Sierra Club presented the Environmental Youth Leadership Award to Juan Martinez, an Outward Bound Adventures Youth Advisory Council leader, on Saturday, February 12. Mr. Martinez received this award for his outstanding leadership in outdoor education.

"I would like to congratulate Mr. Martinez for his efforts to help other students develop leadership skills while experiencing the outdoors and a safe environment" said Solis.

Solis' concern for the environment has led her to advocate for environmental improvement in the San Gabriel Valley and pioneer environmental legislation. Her experiences while growing up in the San Gabriel Valley gave her great appreciation for programs that teach our youth to cherish the environment.

The Outward Bound program is the nation's leading nonprofit adventure-education organization. It emphasizes personal growth through experiences and challenges in the wilderness, workrooms and classroom and inspires students to serve others in the United States and around the world. For Juan Martinez, the outdoor experience provided by this program changed his vision of life and allowed him to explore a new way of life while making contact with nature and leading others by serving in the Outward Bound program.

The award ceremony took place at the Santa Fe Dam, in the city of Irwindale. After the Award presentation, Youth Advisory Council leaders from Outward Bound Adventures guided students from the Azusa's Neighborhood Homework House through team-building and leave-no-trace activities, as well as lessons in camping basics, eco-literacy and environmental careers.

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